

the Other press

"Where's the freedom of the press" DOUGLAS COLLEGE LIBRARY ARCHIVES

Copies of The Pinion seized

All copies of the April 15 edition of the Pinion were seized by elections returning officers on all four campuses last week because of a questionable campaign advertisement in the newspaper for presidential candidate Bill Burnham.

Geoff Nash, Student Society chief returning officer, ordered the seizure last Wednesday hours before polls closed, on the grounds that the journalism class newspaper contained "unlawful, free advertising" for Burnham.

Burnham claims he was willing to pay for advertising when he approached the Pinion, but that Charlie Giordano, Pinion editor and journalism instructor, offered the advertisement free of charge.

Burnham, who lost the election to Dave Johnston, said Wednesday he was "under the understanding that all candidates were allowed the same."

But Johnston said last week that when he approached the Pinion concerning advertising space, he was told it would cost the usual Student Society rate of \$1 per column inch.

When Giordano was told the Pinion had been seized, he asked: "Where's the freedom of the press?"

"They can't take the paper off this campus," he said. "As far as I'm concerned,

it's theft. It's a legal entity, and they can't touch it."

Nash, after ordering the seizure of the paper, said he would "take full responsibility" for his actions.

"Acting as chief returning officer of the Student Society I feel that I have the authority to remove any papers that provide unlawful, free advertising for a particular candidate."

The seized copies were returned to the campus cafe-

terias immediately after polls closed at 9 p.m. Wednesday.

Despite Burnham's claim that he was willing to pay for advertising space in the newspaper, Giordano said Wednesday Burnham had asked for a free advertisement but was charged only one dollar for \$21 worth of advertising because the Pinion "owed him for writing stories" for the newspaper.

Burnham, a journalism

student who writes regularly for the Pinion, said he had received no bill for the \$1 charge.

When asked if it was the policy of the Pinion to pay journalism students for course work, Giordano said Burnham was being paid for "outstanding" work he had done for the Pinion.

But Burnham said he wasn't aware that he was being charged "even a dollar" for the advertisement,

and that he "knew nothing about getting money for writing stories for the Pinion," and that the discussion with Giordano about the advertising "lasted only a couple of minutes between phone calls."

Burnham added that his course work had not been particularly "outstanding," and that he was "very confused" about the whole matter.

Administration criticized

Last Thursday the student council voted to "vehemently complain to the administration about their interference in the recent Student Society elections through the Pinion."

The Pinion, the journalism class newspaper funded by the administration, has come under fire for a political advertisement for candidate Bill Burnham that appeared in the April 15 edition.

Council chairman Ray Harris said at the meeting "we can't have the administration interfering with the affairs of the Society in this way."

Chief Returning Officer Geoff Nash raised the matter, claiming that the Pinion had not made itself available to other candidates in the

recent elections, and stressed that it "was not the fault of Burnham."

Richmond rep Pete Richardson voted against the motion, and claimed that "if other students had asked, they would have given them a free ad."

But candidate Dave Johnston, who won the election, said that he had asked the Pinion about campaign advertisements and was told he would be charged the normal Student Society rate.

After the meeting, Harris said he finds it "hard to believe that a newspaper funded by the administration and run by professionals could make such a screw-up."

When asked Thursday for comment, Principal George

Wootton stated that he had not yet heard of the trouble and declined comment.

Bill Morfe, chief bursar for the college, said he will request Pinion editor Giordano to relate "his side of the story" before making judgement.

Morfe received a memo last Thursday from Geoff Nash, explaining the Student Society position on the matter.

Morfe said administration has had "damn good relations with the Student Society" and said he didn't want to see them jeopardized in any way.

"Had he (Burnham) won, it would have made it (the advertisement controversy) a lot more difficult," he said.

Morfe stressed that there

is no way of knowing just yet how the administration will handle the situation, but stated it will take "whatever kind of steps are necessary to prevent a recurrence."

We don't want this kind of thing cropping up every election," he added.

The Burnham advertisement controversy marks the second time political advertisements in the Pinion have been challenged.

In December 1975, College Council passed a motion to reprimand the Pinion for the content of the Nov. 7, 1975 edition of the newspaper.

In that issue, a full-page campaign advertisement was carried for the Surrey Voters Association, a party of which the news editor at that time, Alice Moore, was a candidate.

★ NOTICE ★

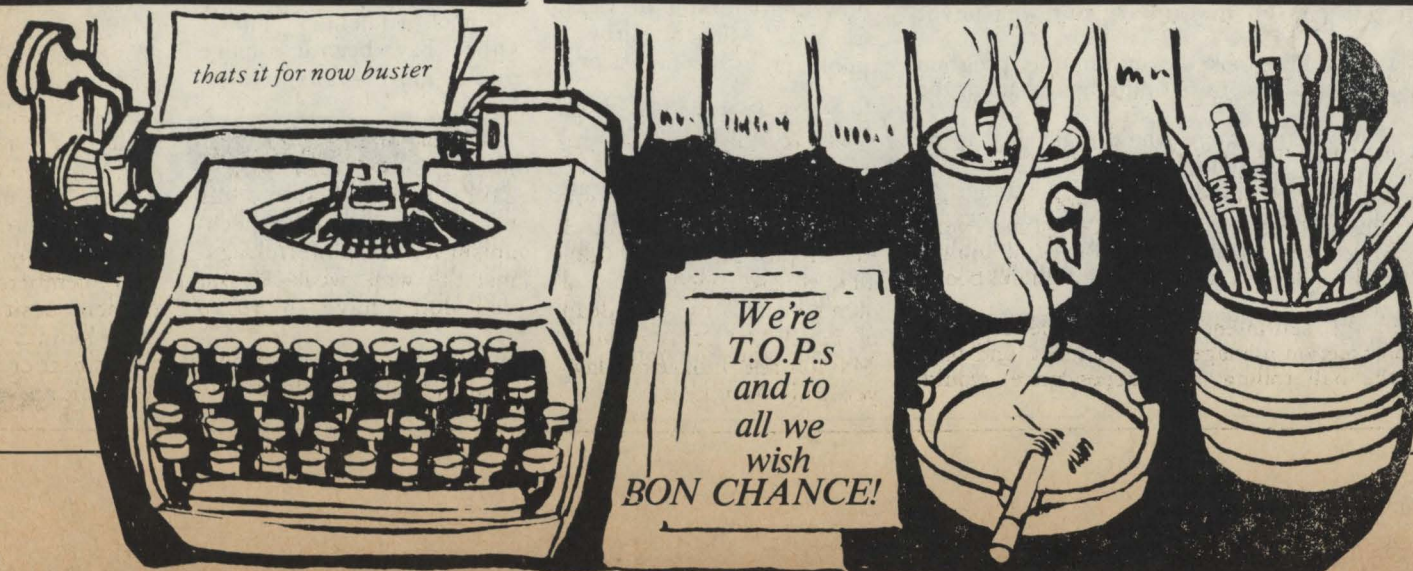
The characters refered to in the "Onion" parody supplement of the last issue of the Other Press (April 18, 1977, Volume III, Number 13), were purely fictitious, and any resemblance to individuals within the college community was purely coincidental. We apologize for any similarities that may have been drawn to persons real. Co-editors of the Other Press

How you voted...see what you've done!

JOHNSTON WINS, FOLLOWED BY BURNHAM AND SICKERT.

SURREY CAMPUS		
Johnston	Burnham	Sickert
12	99	2
NEW WESTMINSTER CAMPUS		
Johnston	Burnham	Sickert
170	27	20
RICHMOND CAMPUS		
Johnston	Burnham	Sickert
10	25	8
COQUITLAM CAMPUS		
Johnston	Burnham	Sickert
15	13	2
Totals	164	32
207		

RESULTS UNOFFICIAL.
TOTAL VOTES CAST: 403 out of a possible 5,000



Gibson calls for Constitutional forum

Douglas College's Surrey campus was the scene Saturday April 16 of a one-day Liberal regional conference at which B.C. Party Leader Gordon Gibson reiterated his call for "a great constitutional forum."

Addressing about 60 party members from the Metro-Fraser and Fraser Valley area, Gibson stated that the present political structure of Canada "isn't working", and that Canadians should have a say in the restructuring of their country.

Comparing the concept of confederation to that of a contract, Gibson asked, how many people would now enter into a 110 year contract that could not be re-negotiated.

*Special to the
OTHER PRESS
by our Regional affairs
Reporter*

GORDON Herman ISFELD

The conference was called to elect regional officers for the area and to allow for input from party members in the formation of policy statements. Billed as "Liberals Together-Canada Together", discussions centered on the question of national unity.

Speaking to this issue, Gibson outlined details for his proposed forum:

--The federal government would be called upon to give terms of reference as to the structure the forum would take.

--The federal government would appoint a set number of delegates.

--The majority of delegates would be elected from within federal ridings on a non-partisan basis.

--Each riding would be divided into five sections, with

'Political system not working'

elections to be held in each. --Those receiving 20 per cent or more of the vote in each section would be eligible to attend the forum, allowing greater input from each section.

On other constitutional matters, Gibson told delegates that Canada needs "an entrenched bill of rights" that would be free from government interference at all levels.

He also called for a "freedom of information act" that would put an end to the present "secretive forms of government."

Gibson explained that some exceptions would be made in the act to allow for cases such as national security, personal credit information, and doctor-patient relationships.

There should be a change in the present power structure, he said, with greater recognition to local governments.

He criticized the current parliamentary system, saying it does not fully utilize its potential authority.

"MP's should have more free votes in parliament," he said.

Turning to provincial politics, Gibson predicted the Social Credit Party would not be re-elected when the next election is called.

He said with the Socreds being unpopular with the people of B.C., and the NDP already having been given their chance to govern, the Liberals would form the next government.

Because of this, Gibson

said the Party must attract candidates before the election.

Gibson criticized the provincial government for its lack of competence in the area of economic management. He said their programs aren't working "with 100,000 unemployed in B.C."

He said B.C. has to develop a "specialized economy" and should do so now. The cost of living is too high for anything but a specialized economy, he said.

Gibson said there is good supply of wood chips in B.C. and the government should construct pulp mills for what he called an "anticipated demand" in about three

years time.

He also criticized the governments "make-work" program, stating "it was like asking somebody to dig a hole and having him use the dirt from that hole to fill up the hole that he dug before."

Also addressing the conference was Liberal MP Art Lee, who stated Canada must be more "selective" in its immigration policies if unemployment is to be reduced.

Lee said that in his own riding of Vancouver-East unemployment is running at 47 per cent, and that "it doesn't make sense to bring in people" from other countries when job opportunities are so low.

The federal government's proposed new immigration act "is much more realistic and pragmatic" than the present "open door" policy, he said, and in the Liberal tradition, it (the act) is a compromise.

"I'm a strong advocate of immigration", Lee said, but the act is more concerned with "gearing the person to a job."

Lee explained that the only way this could be accomplished is if provincial governments become more involved with educational training. "This is because it is a regional thing," he said.

When asked if the act would violate civil liberties, Lee said the act is "non-discriminatory" and that once a person has gained entry to Canada, they would be treated the same as any other citizen.

Power elite formed

*Special to the Other Press
by Peter Birt*

(Ottawa) An international collection of what sociologist John Porter would call the power elite, including 11 Canadians, comprise what is referred to as the Trilateral Commission. That point is not in question. What is debated is the purpose of this select group.

Founded in 1973 by the president of the powerful Chase Manhattan bank David Rockefeller, the Commission's Canadian connection is the northern equivalent of the U.S., Japan and Western Europe elites.

**WHO ARE THE
CANADIANS??**

The president of U.S. Time magazine is a member and so is Doris Anderson, editor of Canada's Chatelaine magazine.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was a member and so was former Canadian external affairs minister Mitchell Sharp. Jean-Luc Pepin, chairperson of the Anti-Inflation Board (AIB) is a member. So too is the head of British Columbia Hydro, Robert Bonner.

Conservative member of parliament Gordon Fair-

Weather is a member and so is Maurice Strong, former United Nations delegate and now chairperson of Petro Canada. Michael Kirby, a public utilities commissioner

in Nova Scotia and Peter Dobel of the Parliamentary Centre for the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade are members. The president of the Provincial Bank of Canada, Michel Belanger, is a member, as is the vice dean of Laval University Claude Masson and Edmonton lawyer Louis Desrouchers.

The purpose of the commission has been interpreted in many ways.

Jake Helms, writing for Liberation news Service, called it a mechanism "designed to minimize the friction and competition that divide three major industrial regions of the world--North America, Western Europe and Japan--as they bargain for the increasingly valuable resources of the developing nations."

Writing under the title The World's New Cold War, Newsweek's Robert Christoper said the Commission "is, in a sense, an international lobby--a well financed organization of private citizens dedicated to promoting closer cooperation between the U.S., Canada and the nations of Western Europe and Japan".

Someone else suggested that the Commission "is another stepping stone to world government". That meant to suggest it was some kind of commie organization.

Writing for Southam News Service, Don McGillivray smugly suggested that "a more unlikely gang of sinister plotters would be hard to find."

He simply called the group "a pool of talent, a club". Others have been less naive and more suspicious.

Writing in the Rolling Stone, [redacted] said the commission "has become a coordinating mechanism for the powerful against the weak." But you don't have to go to

Rolling Stone or former political radical Tom Hayden to

understand what the Commission is up to.

In 1975 Newsweek magazine outlined some of the discussion that took place at a Trilateral Commission meeting in Kyoto, Japan that year.

Former Trilateral Commission director and now national security advisor to President Carter, Zbigniew Brzezinski said that "what the new nations do possess, is negative power--the power to refuse their cooperation in the maintenance of world order and thereby to promote violence and chaos." In response to comments about a new deal for the third world the Trilateral delegates

clearly made their point. Patrick Haggerty, chairperson of U.S. Texas Instruments Inc. said that "you can't have more equity than you can afford." The president of the California Institute of Technology Harold Brown said "any bargain on the redistribution of wealth should include limits on population growth."

Remarks such as these could be taken less seriously if these people were not the leaders of business and government. But they are.

The Canadians on the Commission have done their best to downplay the role and power of the Commission. They have said they rejected some of the ideas put forth and reminded critics that the group was mainly just a discussion forum.

With many of the Trilateral members in key government positions however, these points of discussion become increasingly less academic and more

Viva la Coquitlame libre

"A lot of people" at Coquitlam campus are considering "breaking away from the Student Society" and forming their own organization, a former student council member said Thursday.

Bert Tymchyshyn, former chairman of the Coquitlam campus council, said the majority of students at that campus "think the Student Society is a bunch of kids playing politics."

Tymchyshyn, who was impeached last month for missing three consecutive student council meetings, said he and vice-chairman Steve Warren, also impeached, had their resignations written out when they were informed of their actions.

Tymchyshyn said he and Warren took the positions on the basis that, because of heavy course loads, they would only occasionally attend Student Society meetings.

"It's a waste of time going to those meetings," Tymchyshyn said. "They pass things, but nothing ever gets done."

Tymchyshyn said a motion allowing the campus cabinets for a stereo system was passed in January but was never honoured.

Tymchyshyn claims it also took the intramurals program almost two months to replace worn out ping-pong bats at the campus.

"There's a lot of people out there who'd really like to do something, but there's really nothing to do."

He said the Coquitlam students have organized things on their own since the impeachment, such as soccer games every Wednesday between first and second year students, obtaining a coffee machine for the cafeteria, and getting a phone booth for students.

Tymchyshyn said the sentiment for independence rests mainly with the construction management students, and that "if someone got the ball rolling, it (independence) would work."